



REMARKS

The above election along with the following remarks are being submitted as a full and complete response to the Official Action dated February 11, 2003 (U.S. Patent Office Paper No. 6), the period for response to which will expire on March 11, 2003.

Election / Restriction Requirement

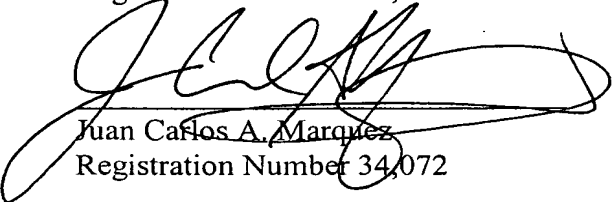
The Examiner is respectfully requested to review the substance of Claims 18 through 27 and to indicate the allowability of the claims.

Claims 18 through 27 drawn to a method of fabricating a semiconductor device having wirings formed in wiring grooves and a connection member formed integrally with the wirings in via holes for connecting the wirings and lower layer wirings thereof, have been elected in this application, while remaining claims 28 through 37 are withdrawn from further prosecution without prejudice and traverse. Claims 1 through 17 have already been withdrawn from consideration in an earlier communication with the Office. Applicants hereby reserve the right to file a divisional application on the non-elected claims.

Substantive consideration of the elected claims is respectfully solicited. Should there be any outstanding issues requiring discussion that would further the prosecution and allowance of the above-captioned application, the Examiner is invited to contact the Applicants' undersigned representative at the address and phone number indicated below.

Respectfully submitted,

Stanley P. Fisher
Registration Number 24,344



Juan Carlos A. Marquez
Registration Number 34,072

REED SMITH LLP
3110 Fairview Park Drive, Suite 1400
Falls Church, Virginia 22042
(703) 641-4200
March 11, 2003